APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): 30 NOV 2017
- B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Buffalo District, Barbara Moll Estate, 2016-01384 Wetlands 6 7, 8, A, and B; and Stream 4 Form 1 of 1

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State: NY County: Niagara City: Lewiston

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 43.1593°, Long. -79.012°

Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: Fish Creek

Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows:

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 041201040605

__X_Check if map/diagram of review area and/or potential jurisdictional areas is/are available upon request.

____Check if other sites (e.g., offisite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

X Office (Desk) Determination. Date: September 28, 2017

X Field Determination. Date(s): May 10, 2017

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area. [Required]

Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

Waters are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There are "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

1. Waters of the U.S.

a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply): 1

TNWs, including territorial seas

Wetlands adjacent to TNWs

Relatively permanent waters² (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs

Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs

Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs

Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs

Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs

Impoundments of jurisdictional waters

____ Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:

Non-wetland waters: linear feet: # width (ft) and/or acres.

Wetlands: acres.

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: 1987 Delineation Manual and Ordinary high water mark

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.

Explain: Wetland 6 (0.23 acres), Wetland 8 (0.02 acres), Wetland A (0.016 acres), and Wetland B (0.092 acres) do not have a hydrological connection to a Water of the US. Wetlands 6, 8, A, and B have no potential to affect interstate commerce under 328.3(a)(3)(i-iii) (See Section IVB of this form); therefore, Wetlands 6, 8, A, and B are considered to be intrastate, non-navigable, isolated waters.

The entire perimeter of each of the wetlands (Wetlands 6, 8, A, and B) was walked. They were found to be depressional wetlands that formed as a result of previous earth moving or other heavy equipment disturbance possibly during the construction of adjacent

¹ Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

² For purposes of this form, an RPW is defined as a tributary that is not a TNW and that typically flows year-round or has continuous flow at least "seasonally" (e.g., typically 3 months).

³ Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

subdivisions. There are no outlets from any of these wetlands that lead to any water of the U.S. There is no wetland ecological continuum and no possibility of subsurface connection between any of these wetlands and a water of the U.S. Wetland 6 is located approximately 1,130 feet from the nearest WOUS, Wetland 8 is located approximately 500 linear feet from the nearest WOUS, Wetland B is located approximately 750 feet from the nearest WOUS, and Wetland A is located approximately 500 linear feet from the nearest WOUS.

Wetland 7 (0.12 acres) appears to be a wetland created from an abandoned man-made pond/pool/excavated area. The edges are virtually straight and the shape is virtually square (which is something that rarely occurs in nature without constraints such as bedrock limiting the configuration). Wetland 7 drains from the southeastern edge through a 656 linear foot small drainage erosional feature annotated as "Stream 4" on the delineation map. Stream 4 then meanders on a downhill path and eventually flows to a drop inlet water collection system for an adjacent subdivision. This erosional feature did not exhibit characteristics that could be considered as forming bed and banks. There were some pockets of standing water in the channel on the day of the site visit but there was no flowing water. The pools may have developed from storm events earlier in the week. Stream 4 is considered to be an erosional feature and therefore is not regulated. The volume, frequency, and duration of the flow from Wetland 7 is considered to be minimal and without a potential ecological connection to any water of the U.S. and therefore is not regulated.

SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over TNWs and wetlands adjacent to TNWs. If the aquatic resource is a TNW, complete Section III.A.1 and Section III.D.1. only; if the aquatic resource is a wetland adjacent to a TNW, complete Sections III.A.1 and 2 and Section III.D.1.; otherwise, see Section III.B below.

1. TNW

Identify TNW:

Summarize rationale supporting determination:

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is "adjacent":

B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY):

This section summarizes information regarding characteristics of the tributary and its adjacent wetlands, if any, and it helps determine whether or not the standards for jurisdiction established under *Rapanos* have been met.

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over non-navigable tributaries of TNWs where the tributaries are "relatively permanent waters" (RPWs), i.e. tributaries that typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months). A wetland that directly abuts an RPW is also jurisdictional. If the aquatic resource is not a TNW, but has year-round (perennial) flow, skip to Section III.D.2. If the aquatic resource is a wetland directly abutting a tributary with perennial flow, skip to Section III.D.4.

A wetland that is adjacent to but that does not directly abut an RPW requires a significant nexus evaluation. Corps districts and EPA regions will include in the record any available information that documents the existence of a significant nexus between a relatively permanent tributary that is not perennial (and its adjacent wetlands if any) and a traditional navigable water, even though a significant nexus finding is not required as a matter of law.

If the waterbody⁴ is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i)			
	Watershed size: square miles		
	Drainage area: square miles		
	Average annual rainfall: inches		
	Average annual snowfall: inches		
(ii)	ii) Physical Characteristics:		
	(a) Relationship with TNW:		
	Tributary flows directly into TNW.		
	Tributary flows through no tributaries before entering TNW.		
	Project waters are <i>Choose an item.</i> river miles from TNW.		
	Project waters are <i>Choose an item.</i> river miles from RPW.		

⁴ Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

		Project waters are <i>Choose an item.</i> aerial (straight) miles from TNW. Project waters are <i>Choose an item.</i> aerial (straight) miles from RPW. Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:
		Identify flow route to TNW ⁵ : Fish Creek (Stream 1) flows directly into the Niagara River (a TNW) Tributary stream order, if known:
	(b)	General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply): Tributary is: Natural Artificial (man-made). Explain: Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: the stream has been culverted beneath roads
		Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate): Average width: feet Average depth: feet Average side slopes: Choose an item.
		Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply): Silts Sands Concrete Cobbles Gravel Muck Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover: Other. Explain:
		Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain: stable Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: Tributary geometry: <i>Choose an item.</i> Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): #%
	(c)	Flow: Tributary provides for: Choose an item. Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: Choose an item. Describe flow regime: The stream collects runoff from the surrounding forested areas. Other information on duration and volume:
		Surface flow is: Choose an item. Characteristics:
		Subsurface flow: <i>Choose an item.</i> Explain findings: Dye (or other) test performed:
		Tributary has (check all that apply): Bed and banks OHWM ⁶ (check all indicators that apply): clear, natural line impressed on the bank changes in the character of soil shelving vegetation matted down, bent, or absent leaf litter disturbed or washed away sediment deposition water staining other (list): The presence of litter and debris destruction of terrestrial vegetation the presence of wrack line sediment sorting scour multiple observed or predicted flow events abrupt change in plant community
		Discontinuous OHWM. ⁷ Explain:
		If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply): High Tide Line indicated by: oil or scum line along shore objects fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore) physical markings/characteristics physical markings/characteristics tidal gauges other (list): Mean High Water Mark indicated by: survey to available datum; physical markings; vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.
(iii)	Cha	emical Characteristics: racterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.) Explain: https://example.com/racteristics/particles/pa

⁵ Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW.

⁶A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break.

Tibid.

Habitat for: Federally Listed specific Fish/spawn areas. Export Exportant Control Fish/spawn areas. Exportant Export	eteristics (type, average wristics: Wetland 1 directly cies. Explain findings: eplain findings: ly-sensitive species. Expersity. Explain findings:	vidth): y abuts the tributary along its entire plain findings:	
Characteristics of wetlands adjac	ent to non-TNW that flo	ow directly or indirectly into TNV	W
(i) Physical Characteristics: (a) General Wetland Characteristics: Properties: Wetland size: acrested Wetland type. Palustrested Wetland quality. Expending Project wetlands cross or	ne forested. Explain:	. Explain:	
(b) General Flow Relationshi Flow is: Intermittent Flow	Explain:		
Surface flow is: <i>Choose an</i> Characteristics:.	item.		
Subsurface flow: UnknowDye (or other) te			
Ecological co	g and hydrologic connection nnection. Explain:		etland 5 from Stream 1.
(d) Proximity (Relationship) Project wetlands are Choose Project waters are Choose Flow is from: Choose an it Estimate approximate loc	se an item. river miles fro an item. aerial (straight) n em.		
(ii) Chemical Characteristics: Characterize wetland system (e etc.). Explain: Water was Identify specific pollutants, if	clear on the day of the s		uality; general watershed characteristics
Vegetation type/percent Habitat for: Federally Listed spe Fish/spawn areas. Ex Other environmental	teristics (type, average w cover. Explain: cies. Explain findings:	ridth):	
Characteristics of all wetlands ad All wetland(s) being considere Approximately () acres in total For each wetland, specify the f	d in the cumulative analy are being considered in	ysis: Choose an item.	
Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)	Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: Click here to enter text.

C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

2.

3.

A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary itself and the functions performed by any wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of a TNW. For each of the following situations, a significant nexus exists if the tributary, in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, has more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of a TNW. Considerations when evaluating significant nexus include, but are not limited to the volume, duration, and frequency of the flow of water in the tributary and its proximity to a TNW, and the functions performed by the tributary and all its adjacent wetlands. It is not appropriate to determine significant nexus based solely on any specific threshold of distance (e.g. between a tributary and its adjacent wetland or between a tributary and the TNW). Similarly, the fact an adjacent wetland lies within or outside of a floodplain is not solely determinative of significant nexus.

Draw connections between the features documented and the effects on the TNW, as identified in the Rapanos Guidance and discussed in the Instructional Guidebook. Factors to consider include, for example:

- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), provide habitat and lifecycle support functions for fish and other species, such as feeding, nesting, spawning, or rearing young for species that are present in the TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to transfer nutrients and organic carbon that support downstream foodwebs?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have other relationships to the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of the TNW?

Note: the above list of considerations is not inclusive and other functions observed or known to occur should be documented below:

- Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D:
- Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:
- Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D: Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?

DETERMINATIONS OF HIDISDICTIONAL FINDINGS THE SHRIFCT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT

	PLY):
1.	TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands. Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area: TNWs: # linear feet # width (ft), Or, # acres. Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: # acres.
2.	RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial: Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow "seasonally" (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally: Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply): Tributary waters: linear feet # width (ft). Other non-wetland waters: # acres. Identify type(s) of waters:
	3. Non-RPWs ⁸ that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C. Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply): Tributary waters: # linear feet # width (ft). Other non-wetland waters: # acres. Identify type(s) of waters:
4.	Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands. Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:
	Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow "seasonally." Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:

		Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: # acres.
	5.	Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisidictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.
		Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: Wetland 5 (0.05 acres) acres.
	6.	Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.
		Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: # acres.
	7.	Impoundments of jurisdictional waters. ⁹ As a general rule, the impoundment of a jurisdictional tributary remains jurisdictional. Demonstrate that impoundment was created from "waters of the U.S.," or
		Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or
		Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).
Е.	OR	LATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK THAT APPLY): 10 which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes. from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce. which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce. Interstate isolated waters. Explain: Other factors. Explain:
	Idei	ntify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:
	Prov	wide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply): Tributary waters: # linear feet # width (ft). Other non-wetland waters: # acres. Identify type(s) of waters: Wetlands: # acres.
F.	NO	N-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):
- •	1,0	If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
	~	Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
	_	Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR). Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain:
		waters do not need the Significant Nexus standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain.
		Other: (explain, if not covered above):
	(i.e.	ride acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the <u>sole</u> potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment ck all that apply):
	V	Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear "Stream 4" - 656 feet 8" width (ft).
		Lakes/ponds: # acres.
		Other non-wetland waters: # acres. List type of aquatic resource:.
	V	Wetlands: Wetland 7 - 0.12 acres.
		vide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a ing is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):
		Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet inches width (ft).
		Lakes/ponds: # acres.

⁹ To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.
¹⁰ Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following Rapanos.

Wetlands: acres.
SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.
A. SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked ar
requested, appropriately reference sources below):
x Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant:
x Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
x Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report. The original report did not include all of the smaller tributaries
Data sheets prepared by the Corps:
Corps navigable waters' study:
U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas:
USGS NHD data.
USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
x_ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: Lewiston
x_USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: on line Web Soil Survey
x National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: Wetland mapper online through USFWS
State/Local wetland inventory map(s):
FEMA/FIRM maps:
100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)
Photographs: <u>x</u> Aerial (Name & Date): On-Line Bing and Google Earth Pro
or x Other (Name & Date): as supplied by the wetland delineator
Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
Applicable/supporting case law:
Applicable/supporting scientific literature:
Other information (please specify):

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:

Wetlands 6, 7, 8, A, and B are outside Department of the Army jurisdiction as they do not meet the criteria for a jurisdictional water of the United States according to 33 CFR Part 328.3(a)(1-7) as follows:

1. do not supported interstate or foreign commerce;

Other non-wetland waters: # acres. List type of aquatic resource:.

- 2. none are interstate waters/wetlands;
- 3. the degradation or destruction of which would not affect interstate or foreign commerce and do not include such waters:
 - (i) which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes; or
 - (ii) from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or
 - (iii) which are used or could be used for industrial purpose by industries in interstate commerce
- 4. are not an impoundment of water otherwise defined as WOUS under the definition;
- 5. are not a tributary of waters identified in paragraphs (a)(1)-(4) of this section;
- 6. are not a territorial sea;
- 7. are not wetland adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in paragraphs (a)(1)-(6) of this section;

Lesta Ammons 01 OCT 2017